

REMARKS

The Examiner's reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the amendments above and comments which follow.

In the Advisory Action of November 3, 2008, it appears that the Examiner considers that the structure disclosed in Mans U.S. Patent No. 3,062,225, i.e., a partitioned annular trough wherein one specimen is immersed in one partition, falls within the scope of claim 1, given the rejection of claim 1 as being anticipated by Mans.

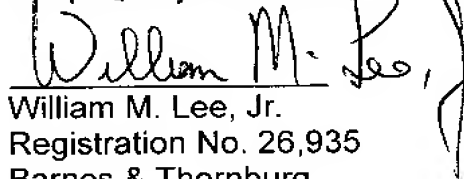
It is submitted that the Examiner's position cannot be the correct interpretation of claim 1, because the claim also requires that the specimens are immersed in a liquid, and that the arrangement enables the specimens to be immersed in the liquid. Therefore, as there is only one liquid in claim 1, in which the specimens are immersed, the structure shown in Mans does not allow this, and therefore it is submitted that claim 1 was not anticipated by Mans.

However, in order to further clarify this important difference, claim 1 has been amended to make it explicit that the plurality of tissue specimens are immersed in a common liquid.

It is submitted that, given the amendments above, and the previous argument explaining the allowability over Mans and Klang, the claims now clearly distinguish from the prior art and are allowable thereover. The Examiner's further and favorable reconsideration of the application is therefore urged.

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Respectfully submitted,


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